## Message Text

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20

**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 ACDA-05 EB-07 NIC-01 SAJ-01 /079 W

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R 181110Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6866

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 19370

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH PROPOSAL RE NORTH CORRIDOR

REF: A) USBER 2190 B) STATE 261639 C) BONN 18147

- 1. DURING MOST RECENT BILATERAL CONTACT, DEC 17, ON MATTER WITH UK REP TO BONN GROUP, US REP ASKED IF BRITISH HAD YET DECIDED WHAT IT WERE GOING TO DO RE FRENCH REQUEST. US REP SAID WE SAW IT MAINLY AS MATTER FOR BRITISH AND FRENCH TO WORK OUT BUT THAT TEGEL OPENING DATE WAS FAST APPROACHING. UK REP SAID FCO HAD NOT YET REACHED A CONCLUSION, THAT BRITISH WERE WELL AWARE OF PROBLEM, BUT THAT MATTER "NOT ALL THAT SIMPLE." HE TURNED ASIDE ATTEMPT TO BE DRAWN OUT.
- 2. ALSO ON DEC 17 FRENCH REP TOLD US OF HIS DISGUST WITH UK BEHAVIOR AS HE DESCRIBED IT IN BASC. BRITISH, SAID FRENCH REP, ARE ENGAGED IN EXERCISE IN BASC IN CONFIDENTIAL

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ATTEMPT TO SHOW THAT FRENCH ARE INCAPABLE OF BECOMING

GOOD CONTROLLERS. ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH, THE SENIOR UK OFFICER HAS STARTED A TABULATION OF FRENCH ERRORS IN ENGLISH, TARDINESS TO WORK, ETC.

3. COMMENT: TRUE OR NOT, MATTER REPORTED PARA 2 ONLY RECONFIRMS OUR CONVICTION THAT WE MUST NOT BE DRAWN INTO LIKELY CROSSFIRE BETWEEN FRENCH AND BRITISH ON THIS. THIS IS CONDITIONED, OF COURSE, ON SOLUTION TO BASCTEGEL COMMUNICATION PROBLEM PRIOR TO TEGEL FULL OPENING DATE.

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## Message Attributes

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